Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know the names of Heads of Departments and their assistants who made use of the saloon ?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—No register is maintained for that and the names therefore cannot be given.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar—The dates on which the Heads of Departments made use of the saloon ?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—I want notice.

Supply of Provisions—Tramway Department.

123. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the number of tenders received for the supply of provisions to Tramway Department during the year 1104, 1105, 1106 and 1107;

(2) the name of the lowest tenderer with rates in each tender;

(3) to whom the contract was given in each year;

(4) was his tender the lowest, if not, the reasons for not giving to the lowest tenderer;

(5) (1) in what respect a tender for provisions is determined to be the lowest;

(2) is it by taking the rate quoted for rice, the chief and largest quantity consumed, into consideration; or

(3) by the rate of sundry articles;

(6) a list of the following provisions transported to the hills for 3 years 1104, 1105 and 1106 may be placed on the Council Table?

(1) Rice 1st class.
(2) do 2nd class.
(3) Broken rice.
(4) Raw rice.
(5) Table rice.

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—(1) Tenders received for the supply of provisions in 1104—7; 1105—9; 1106—9; 1107—8.

(2) 1104 V. C. Augusty
1105 C. L. Mathew
1106 A. R. Joseph
1107 K. K. Kunjippalu

In regard to the latter portion of the question, please see the copies of the tenders placed on the Council Table.

(3) 1104 A. R. Joseph
1105 C. L. Mathew
1106 A. R. Joseph
1107 K. K. Kunjippalu

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(4) 1104. V. C. Augusty's tender was the lowest but the contract was given at the lowest rates to A. R. Joseph who has been the contractor for the previous years, in consideration of the fact that he conducted the business satisfactorily and also in view of the fact that the new contractor was a stranger to the department.

1105, 1106, 1107 } The lowest tenderer was given the contract.

(5) (1) By taking the rates quoted for the major number of articles of provisions that are most consumed by the staff.

(2) No.

(3) No.

(6)

	1104	1105	1106
(1) Rice 1st class	433 bags	538 bags	547 bags
(2) Do 2nd do	..	..	..
(3) Broken rice	..	..	13 bags
(4) Raw rice	..	....	
(5) Table rice	....	..	

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—(4) May I know whether the Tramway Engineer made inquiries about the status of the lowest tenderer? It is said that the new contractor was a stranger to the Department.

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—No inquiry was made since he had no transactions in the Department before.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What is the necessity for calling tenders if the tenders are to go only to known persons.

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Tenders were called for ascertaining the lowest rate. The Tramway Engineer is at liberty to accept the lowest or any other tender.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—In 1105, 1106 and 1107 it was given to the lowest tenderer. Was he a contractor of the Tramway Department before?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Yes.

Grants-in-aid—Universities.

124. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the grants-in-aid the Government were and are making to Universities outside the Madras Presidency;

(b) the reasons for it;

(c) are the Government now aware that the amounts indicated in (a) could render greater public utility if they were spent towards European and foreign scholarships to the members of the educationally backward classes of the State.

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